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lution, constitute the main themes for the three acts. The ballad forms of the period have been drawn on freely in the "transitions" and make a pleasing contribution to the entire movement.

*President Wilson.* By Daniel Halévy. Translated from the French by Hugh Stokes. (New York: John Lane company, 1919. 283 p. \$1.50 net)

Not a biography in the ordinarily accepted sense, nor yet merely an interpretative essay, this volume is an attempt to combine the two, special emphasis, however, being laid upon the thought of Mr. Wilson rather than on the facts of his life. It is interesting chiefly as one of the attempts to reveal to France and to Europe the thought and purpose of the president in meeting the various problems which have come before him for solution. In the point of view of the author rests the chief value of the study, since otherwise it contains practically nothing that is new. It is at best a rather superficial study by one who shows in many ways a rather striking unfamiliarity with American institutions, problems, and thought. Some of the authorities relied on for expression of American opinion and sentiment might lead to the belief that he is equally unfamiliar with American thinkers.

It is doubtful if many Americans will agree with the author that Mr. Wilson has in later life subordinated the executive to the legislative branch of the United States government (p. 23). Mr. Wilson himself would scarcely admit that his purpose in writing *Congressional government* was "to demonstrate that the idea of the American Constitution is false, and that its results are absurd" (p. 27). The average American at least is unaware that this immense nation of mixed race is composed of illiterates, streaked with Calabrian, Syrian, and Croat blood (p. 102). The republic of Colombia in all probability is still as ignorant as the United States of the startling fact that President Wilson in a lordly fashion ended her claims against us by a "gift" of twenty-five millions of dollars (p. 156).

The translation, if designed to be literal both as to the nervous style and French method of expression, is highly successful; but better results would have been obtained had there been less frequent use of such words as "magistrature," "candidature," "tentatives," "autonomist," and a host of others. One wonders also why "Progressist" is uniformly employed for "Progressive."

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